

## PERFORMANCE REPORT

**STATE:** Alaska

**GRANT NR:** W-31-HS-1

**TITLE:** Hunter Information and Training

**PERIOD:** 1 July 1998–30 June 1999

**PROJECT OBJECTIVES:** To develop and conduct an educational program for the following purposes:

- reduce hunting-related accidents, particularly those involving firearms and archery equipment;
- provide students with a basic understanding of wildlife management;
- help students understand hunter responsibility and ethics and the roles these play in the future of hunting;
- help students adapt to new rules and regulations.

### **JOB 1: PROGRAM COORDINATION AND EVALUATION**

#### *Job Objectives*

To coordinate the state Hunter Education program and to assure standards are maintained.

#### *Activities*

This year we offered 82 basic hunter education and 62 bowhunter education courses. The basic courses were taught by 64 volunteer instructors and 66 additional assistants. The bow courses were taught by 29 instructors with an additional 63 assistants. Last year 222 volunteer instructors were active. In basic hunter education courses, student enrollment ranged from 1–73 students per course, averaging 12.7 students certified per course. Instructors certified 1025 students in the basic program statewide. Bowhunter instructors certified 537 students this year. They were predominantly from Fairbanks, Anchorage, Mat-Su Valley, and the Kenai peninsula. Instructors certified 1562 students in the Hunter Education Program.

#### *Target Date*

Continuing.

#### *Job Status*

Numbers of students certified were significantly lower than students certified last year. Although the number of courses offered was similar, the number of students per course was down from last year. Major emphasis of staff time was working with the Steering Group to develop the Federal Aid 5-year plan.

### *Significant Deviations*

None.

### *Recommendations*

The steering group recommended creation of subcommittees to develop an Alaska-specific curriculum that would include Native viewpoints on the various topics, program standards, and incentives. Having these elements of the program developed by the subcommittees will greatly improve implementation. Major emphasis of staff time was working with the Steering group and getting the mobile training program operational.

## **JOB 2: INSTRUCTOR RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING**

### *Job Objectives*

To recruit, train, and support volunteer instructors around the state and to maintain at least 250 active instructors.

### *Target Date*

Continuing.

### *Progress*

A total of 222 instructors were active in the basic and bow programs. Selected instructors were given training in blackpowder instruction; blackpowder certification will become part of the certification program.

The annual training workshop was attended by approximately 110 instructors. Mr. Randy Dorn was contracted to provide motivational instruction.

We recruited 18 new bowhunter instructors and 29 new basic instructors into the program, increasing the number of instructors to 318.

### *Significant Deviations*

None.

### *Recommendations*

Instructor training will be required as the new curriculum comes online.

## **JOB 3: STUDENT RECRUITMENT AND TRAINING**

### *Job Objectives*

- Encourage student participation in the hunter education program.
- Ensure that students enrolled in hunter education courses receive a minimum of 10 hours of instruction on proper handling of hunting equipment, outdoor survival, wildlife management, and hunter ethics and responsibility.

- Certify 2000 students each year in the basic hunter education course.

#### *Activities*

During this period 1025 students were certified in the basic hunter education course. An additional 537 were certified in the bowhunter education course. Basic courses averaged 12.7 students. Of the 82 basic courses offered, 61 had live fire and 32 had a field course.

#### *Target Date*

Continuing.

#### *Progress*

A total of 1562 students were certified in the program.

#### *Minority participation in basic courses*

Female	67/82 courses	191 students
Alaska Natives	21/82 courses	89 students
Black	8/82 courses	4 students
Oriental	9/82 courses	9 students
Hispanic	11/82 courses	11 students
Alaskans with disabilities	7/82 courses	7 students

#### *Significant Deviations*

None.

#### *Recommendations*

To facilitate student access to our program, courses need to be available in a variety of formats. Courses will continue to be offered in the traditional instructor-delivered style; however, home-study, self-paced learning should be an option. The use of workbooks, videos, and/or cd's will make these options possible. Such options would allow more students to take our courses and help us meet the expected demand since the Board of Game's ruling that classes be a mandatory requirement.

### **Job 4: Annual Performance Report**

#### *Job Objectives*

To write an annual performance report describing active projects of the previous year.

#### **PROJECT COSTS**

STATE: \$65,700                      FEDERAL: \$10,600                      TOTAL: \$76,300

**PERSONNEL**

JOHN MATTHEWS: PCN 2128/12 Mo./PFT.

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